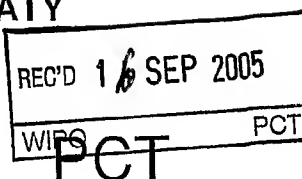


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

01/12

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY



To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/JP2005/009809

International filing date (day/month/year)
23.05.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)
22.05.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
G01R31/319, G01R31/3183, G06F11/26, G06F17/50

Applicant
ADVANTEST CORPORATION

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☒ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2005/009809

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2005/009809

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-38
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-38
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-38
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

see separate sheet

Re Item V

1. **Citations:**

- D1: DATABASE INSPEC [Online] THE INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, STEVENAGE, GB; 2004, RAJSUMAN R: "An overview of the open architecture test system" XP002338257 Database accession no. 8444673
D2: US-A-4 807 161 (COMFORT ET AL) 21 February 1989 (1989-02-21)
D3: PORTELLI B ET AL: "Demonstration of Avionics Module Exchangeability via Simulation (DAMES) program overview", 22 May 1989 (1989-05-22), pages 660-667, XP010086897

2. **Article 33(2) PCT (novelty)**

2.1 **INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1:**

D1, which is considered to represent the closest prior art, discloses a modular test system with vendor modules in an open architecture.

D1 does not disclose the simulation of said modular test system by interfacing / controlling the vendor modules and the models of the corresponding devices under test (DUT) within a common framework.

2.2 **INDEPENDENT CLAIM 20:**

Cf. Mutatis mutandis paragraph 2.1.

Consequently, the subject-matter of claims 1-38 is not novel.

3. **Article 33(3) PCT (inventive step)**

2.1 **INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1:**

D1 discloses the modular test system as described in the present application. However, D1 does not disclose or teach creating a simulation framework with standard interfaces for simulating the test system.

D2 (cf. D2, abstract, Figs. 1, 9, 12, claims) discloses a modular test system comprising vendor modules and DUT models/emulators as well as a

configured/controlled simulation framework for establishing standard interfaces. D2 does not disclose or suggest a simulation of the entire modular test system. D3 discloses (cf. page 665, left column) simulating/ testing a modular system and a configured/controlled simulation framework for establishing standard interfaces for vendor modules. However, D3 is not related to a test system for testing devices under test.

None of these documents discloses or suggests the combination of the following features:

- 1.) Simulation of a test system with a DUT model
- 2) Modular test system with vendor modules
- 3) controller/ simulation framework with a standard interface for vendor modules/DUTs

Consequently, the subject-matter of claims 1-38 is inventive.

3. Re Item VII and VIII

- 3.1 The present set of claims lack reference signs and is not in the two-part form (**Rules 6.2 (b) and 6.3 (b) PCT**).
- 3.2 The relevant prior art documents D1-D3 are not cited and discussed in the description (**Rule 5.1 (ii) PCT**)